

Verizon Wireless a subsidiary of Verizon Communications and Vodafone Group PLC wanted additional spectrum to “accommodate future growth.” Verizon Wireless has agreed in exchange for the spectrum transfer to enter into a cross licensing deal where the cable providers involved would bundle Verizon Wireless service with their services and the wireless carrier would be able to sell content and services of the cable companies to their customers. The FCC and Department of Justice which have to approve the deal rightly want to maintain competition in the wireless and wire-line cable markets to protect consumer choice and prevent monopolistic price increases. The best way to do that would be to deny these deals outright.